

COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT NO. TOPIC Schoenefeld AirfieldEVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 3 to 13 February 1953DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 11 March 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE
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1. Between 3 and 13 February 1953, 3 to 8 Li-2s and 3 biplanes were parked on, and at the side of, hardstand 35. Every day between 5:30 and 6 a.m., 2 to 6 Li-2s took off from the field in the afternoon, 3 to 6 Li-2s usually landed there during the afternoon. After 4 February, 25 Li-2s were observed at the northern side of the field. The planes had landed at the field in January and were parked in the Diepensee area. Between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., on 10 February, 2 Li-2s of the new unit practiced taking off and landing. Two planes practiced flying between 10 a.m. and noon and between 2 and 5 p.m. on 12 February.¹

2. No aircraft were observed in the Diepensee area between 4 and 13 February. The doors of the hangars 11 and 15 were closed.

3. The German personnel of the Soviet consumers' association had been given notice for 1 March 1953.²

25X1 4. In early February, the VP sentry at the guardhouse, building No 51, was replaced by a Soviet sentry who wore black-bordered blue epaulets.

5. On 6 February, source observed that the sentries at the main entrance and at the entrance on the southern edge of the field wore red epaulets. Other soldiers observed at the field wore blue epaulets. Source observed a truck which had a boiler-shaped superstructure with a smokestack on top. Motor vehicles observed entering and leaving the field included truck driver wearing blue-bordered black epaulets, and sedans driver wearing blue-bordered black epaulets, driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and

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6. On the morning of 6 and 7 February, rail traffic and road traffic between Gruenau and Schoenefeld and between Waltersdorf and Schoenefeld was blocked because of large scale unloading operations along the recently built ramp of the railroad stop at Schoenefeld. There, crates, 60 x 60 x 100 to 120 cm, were being unloaded from boxcars and each carried by two Soviet soldiers into the bunkers at the field which had been built some weeks before.³

7. Source learned from a civilian worker that all the civilians employed at the field were dismissed.²

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8. Between 8 and 13 February, an average of 28 twin-engine planes were observed at the field. The sentries at the field wore red epaulets, while most of the officers observed wore blue epaulets.¹

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1. Comment. Since early February 1953, Schoenefeld airfield has been occupied by the air transport regiment from Brandis which is equipped with about 30 Li-2s. See

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2. Comment. The information that the civilian personnel at the field were dismissed is probably connected with the intended transfer of the civilian air facilities from Schoenefeld to Strausberg airfield. See

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3. Comment. The content or use of the crates is not known. The shipments probably contained equipment of the air transport regiment.

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